

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended) A method for providing a homogenized blend of virgin polyethylene terephthalate (VPET) and a polymer modifying component (PMC) ~~PCM~~, said method comprising:

- providing a source of solid VPET;
- providing a source of solid PMC, separate from the source of VPET;
- providing a bulk-container for delivery of the blend to an end user;
- providing a conduit between the sources and the bulk-container;
- selectively dispensing VPET from the source of VPET and PMC from the source of PMC into the conduit in a desired amount to form a uniform blend of materials comprising a predetermined ratio of VPET relative to PMC in the conduit; and
- transporting at least a portion of the blend in the conduit to the bulk-container for delivery to an end user.

2. (original) The method of claim 1 wherein the PMC comprises PCR (post-consumer recycled PET).

3. (canceled)

4. (currently amended) The method of claim 1 ~~3~~ wherein the PMC comprises a material that, when blended with VPET, forms a blend that when molded has a ~~substantially~~ different characteristic than molded unmodified VPET.

5. (currently amended) The method of claim 1 3 wherein the PMC is a material selected from the group consisting of VPET reheat characteristic modifying agents, VPET crystallization rate modifying agents, VPET UV (ultraviolet light) cutoff wavelength modifying agents, VPET acetaldehyde (AA) reducing and/or scavenging agents, VPET oxygen barrier and/or scavenging agents, VPET gas barrier property modifying agents, VPET natural stretch ratio modifying agents, VPET coefficient of friction modifying agents, and VPET processing agents.

6. (original) The method of claim 2 wherein the blend of materials comprises 5% to 25% PCR and 75% to 95% VPET.

7. (original) The method of claim 1 wherein a loading bin is disposed between the conduit and the bulk-container, the loading bin being suitable for storing large quantities of the blend.

8. (currently amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the step of dispensing material from the sources of VPET and PMC comprises ~~comprise~~ dispensing one of the materials into the conduit at a first location and dispensing the other of the materials into the conduit at a second location between the first location and the bulk-container.

9. (currently amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the step of selectively dispensing VPET from the source of VPET and PMC from the source of PMC into the conduit in a desired amount to form a uniform blend of materials comprising a predetermined ratio of VPET relative to PMC in the conduit is controlled by further ~~comprising a CPU for controlling the dispensing of materials from the sources and the mixing of the blends.~~

10. (currently amended) A system for providing a blend of virgin polyethylene terephthalate (VPET) and a polymer modifying component (PMC) PCM, the system comprising:

- a source of solid VPET;
- a source of solid PMC, separate from the source of VPET;
- a conduit in fluid communication with the sources of material, the conduit and the sources being configured to provide a uniform blend of materials comprising the VPET and the PMC in the conduit; and
- a bulk-container capable of receiving the blend of materials.

11. (original) The system of claim 10 wherein the PMC comprises PCR (post-consumer recycled PET).

12. (canceled)

13. (currently amended) The system of claim 10 ~~42~~ wherein the PMC comprises a material that, when blended with VPET, forms a blend that when molded has a ~~substantia~~ different characteristic than molded unmodified VPET.

14. (currently amended) The system of claim 10 ~~42~~ wherein the PMC is a material selected from the group consisting of VPET reheat characteristic modifying agents, VPET crystallization rate modifying agents, VPET UV (ultraviolet light) cutoff wavelength modifying agents, VPET acetaldehyde (AA) reducing and/or scavenging agents, VPET oxygen barrier and/or scavenging agents, VPET gas barrier property modifying agents, VPET natural stretch ratio modifying agents, VPET coefficient of friction modifying agents, and VPET processing agents.

15. (currently amended) The system of claim 11 wherein the blended materials comprise ~~comprises~~ 5% to 25% PCR and 75% to 95% VPET.

16. (original) The system of claim 10 wherein a loading bin is disposed between the conduit and the bulk-container, the loading bin being suitable for storing large quantities of the blend.

17. (original) The system of claim 10 wherein the sources each have a valve between each source and the conduit.

18. (original) The system of claim 17 wherein the valve comprises a rotary air lock valve.

19. (original) The system of claim 10 further comprising a CPU for controlling the dispensing of materials from the sources.

20. (currently amended) A method for providing a homogenized blend of virgin polyethylene terephthalate (VPET) and a polymer modifying component (PMC) PCM, said method comprising:

- providing a source of solid VPET;
- providing a source of solid PMC, separate from the source of VPET;
- providing a loading ~~load-in~~ bin;
- providing a conduit that extends between the sources and the loading bin;
- selectively dispensing VPET from the source of VPET and PMC from the source of PMC into the conduit in a desired amount to form a uniform blend of materials comprising a predetermined ratio of VPET relative to PMC in the conduit; and
- transporting at least a portion of the blend in the conduit to the loading bin and into a bulk-container for delivery to an end user.

21. (new) The method of claim 7 wherein the loading bin includes a mixer.

22. (new) The system of claim 16 wherein the loading bin includes a mixer.

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23. (new) The method of claim 20 wherein the loading bin includes a mixer.